

Decatur County

Shelley Bickel, Decatur County Public Health and Home Care 641-446-6518 sbickel@decaturph.com

Community Health Needs Assessment Snapshot

Promote Healthy Behaviors

Problems/Needs:

- 23.2% of adults in Decatur County use tobacco.

Prevent Injuries

Problems/Needs:

- In 2006, the Iowa motor vehicle injury death rate was 14.6/100,000. Community members feel that texting while driving amongst teenagers is still prevalent in Decatur County.

Protect Against Environmental Hazards

Problems/Needs:

- The percent of Iowa children born in 2002 and tested before age 6 for lead is 75.3% in Decatur County (State average is 80.4%). 7.8% of the children were lead poisoned in Decatur County.

Prevent Epidemics and the Spread of Disease

Problems/Needs:

- For children 19-35 months, the immunization rate increased for the state to 78.9% in 2006. Immunization for low income and Medicaid children is being done monthly by Decatur County Public Health. For children with insurance the Community Health Centers of Southern Iowa is immunizing those children. All data by both entities is put into IRIS.

Prepare for, Respond to, and Recover from Public Health Emergencies

Problems/Needs:

- In the event of a major county public health emergency, there would be difficulty in surge capacity at the hospital. The county collaborative partners continue to work on emergency plans and exercises to minimize problems with a disaster.

Strengthen the Public Health Infrastructure

Problems/Needs:

- Transportation within Decatur County is a problem. The problem identified is not the need since the public transit system through Area Agency on Aging 14 is available daily, but the marketing of the program to the public is nonexistent.

Community Health Improvement Plan

Goal	Strategies	Who is responsible?	When? (Timeline)
Increase the number of Decatur County residents who ride the public transit for their health care needs within the county from 30 rides to 100 rides per week.	Develop and implement a comprehensive education and outreach campaign to the people of all ages in Decatur county.	Decatur County Public Health, Area Agency on Aging 14 from Creston staff, Board of Supervisors, Committee for community health improvement	Spring and Fall 2011